

Notes from January 22, 2001 7-1-1 Technical Conference

The companies reported that they are still targeting implementation of 7-1-1 for wireline phones on May 9, 2001. The ITA will notify its membership of the May 9, 2001 date and ask companies who cannot implement by that date to contact him. Wireless implementation will be at a later date to be determined. FCC mandatory implementation date is October 1, 2001.

Telephone companies need to stop using 7-1-1 for 9-1-1 testing.

Ameritech reported that Austin, Texas, implemented 7-1-1 without any problems. The remainder of Texas and Missouri are to be implemented on February 28. Indiana will be implemented on April 11th.

Some companies have switches that will be able to handle 7-1-1 dialing, but will not be able to deliver the ANI for branding (5Es, DMS100, and DCO) and updates are still pending. It was noted that the FCC order did not require ANI. It was also noted that there is an Illinois DMS100 users group meeting in March and the issue will be brought up for discussion at that meeting.

Sprint has provided a number for the companies to use to make 7-1-1 test calls. (Contact Russ Murray or Cindy Jackson to obtain the number.) Companies calling the test number will receive a message to confirm call completion. Sprint reported that the test number was accidentally routed into the live relay center, which has been corrected and routed back to the recording.

Every working class of service, e.g., B1, R1, PBX, etc. will be tested by every company in every office. Companies are requested to send Russ Murray an e-mail reporting completed area testing. Ameritech will flash cut, so there will be no testing. Verizon will start testing on April 6th. Illinois Consolidated will start testing on February 1st. Mid-Century, Wabash and, Moultrie have completed translations and testing. Home Telephone will be upgrading its switch the week of May 7th, so implementation of 7-1-1 may not be until May 10th.

There was a discussion regarding PBX's and centrex type systems. It was concluded that these systems should not encounter any problems, since consumer dials a "9" or "7" to get an outside line, the call should go through the companies' switch. However, the company need to notify their PBX and centrex customers of the implementation of 7-1-1 and arrange for testing.

Implementation problems and issues should be forwarded to Commission Staff for posting on the web site. This will allow companies to respond regarding how they fixed the specific problem within their company.

The wireless companies are working at the national level to implement 7-1-1. Identified issues include: roaming, calls crossing state boundaries, identification of wireless calls into the relay center, and billing issues, which have not been resolved yet.

It was also discussed and agreed that all paystations need to be placarded for 7-1-1.

It is ITAC's intent to officially announce the implementation of 7-1-1 on June 1, thereby allowing time for companies to workout any problems that may arise on May 9th. ITAC will design and organize a public relations campaign and materials. Any company wanting any PR materials for 7-1-1 should contact ITAC. ITAC also offered to design and distribute to companies 7-1-1 information for incorporation into their directories.

The next meeting will be held via conference bridge April 17, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. The conference bridge number will be provided in the future.